

JANUARY 22, 2003 MEETING SUMMARY MIAMI-DADE COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST

Complaints

02-39, 44: The Ethics Commission accepted the settlement order that adds an admonishment and/or public reprimand to the terms of the settlement order entered against former County employee Rivero for violating the gift section and the exploitation of official position section of the County Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Ordinance.

02-46: Case against former Community Council Member Torres was dismissed with a letter of instruction issued to Respondent stating that the Ethics Commission strongly discourages Community Council members from serving as officers of homeowners' associations and civic associations when these associations regularly appear before these community councils during the zoning meetings. In cases where the association takes a formal position on the record, the community council member, who also sits on the homeowners' board, must not participate in or vote on the matter under consideration.

02-47: The complaint against Sharon Franklin was dismissed for lack of legal sufficiency.

Opinions

02-168: The County Conflict of Interest Ordinance permits County Commissioner Moss to vote on airport contracts managed by his spouse, who is employed at the Airport as a Senior Procurement Contract Officer, because the Commissioner is not uniquely affected by these votes and will not profit from or be enhanced, directly or indirectly, by his vote on these matters.

02-177: Attorney Chinquina is exempt from registering as lobbyist pursuant to the County Conflict of Interest Ordinance based on the fact that his law firm was retained by the Town of Golden Beach to appear before the Sunny Isles Beach City Commission and comment on a proposed ordinance pertaining to land development and zoning.

03-02: County Team Metro Regional Coordinator Santos-Alborna, who is engaged in outside employment as an elections analyst and is seeking outside employment as a consultant to development and construction companies, may continue his outside employment activities as an elections analyst but is barred by the Conflict of Interest Ordinance from working as a consultant for construction and development companies because of his code enforcement responsibilities with Team Metro.

Section Eight: (03-07, 08, 11, 12) were approved.

Lobbyists' Appeals

Initial fines entered against lobbyists were waived in all three cases where lobbyists' indicated they represented non-profit entities, where they did in fact file their expenditure reports and there were no expenditures to report.